

Lemhi County Wildland Fire Hazardous, Risk, & Mitigation Plan 2005 Update

Purpose: Lemhi County Wildland Hazardous Fuels Reduction Committee. Identification of: on-going projects, projects complete, and new projects for 2004-2005 season.

Mitigation Strategies;

Home evaluations in moderate to high risk areas:

Evaluation in areas of moderate to high risk, Williams Lake subdivision, Sheep Creek, Pine Creek, along with residential areas north of the city of North Fork have been conducted.

The County has continued to educate the general population in FIRE WISE, through workshops, guest speaker lectures, home visits, along with public announcements via local radio station.

Training in wildland fire suppression for all of Lemhi Counties Volunteer Fire departments are scheduled to be completed by the end of June. Salmon, Leadore, and North Fork receive this training on a annual basis. Classes are conducted through the Bureau of Land Management.

Active recruitment for volunteer firefighters for the Elk Bend Fire Department is in the process.

Grants have been obtained to help procure new and additional PPE for the Williams Lake Fire Department.

Hazardous fuels reductions on private properties that interface with National Forest are underway:

Williams Lake Subdivision - 2004 high priorities. As of present, fuels reduction projects in the Williams Lake Subdivision are scheduled to start in mid August. Completed September 14th 2004

The Stevens Grant has been obtained to complete this project. Approximately seven homes on the east/south side of the lake. (Classified as Zone A)

In conjunction with fuels reduction on private property, the Bureau of Land Management will be starting a fuels reduction project to the south east properties on BLM ground. (attached map)

Sheep Creek Subdivision- 2004 high priority, through active recruitment of fuels reduction projects in the Sheep Creek area, five new private properties have been approved for fuels reduction treatment. An additional two residents have signed up for fuels reduction projects in the Gibbonsville area. Sheep Creek/Gibbonsville projects completed 10-30-04.

All projects are adjacent to heavy fueled National Forest property. Projects funds are provided from a grant by the USDA (High County RC&D administrators of the grant).

Pine Creek Ranch also know a GSR : **Priority 2003/2004**. Extensive reduction of fuels have been completed at the PCR in the Pine Creek area near Shoup, Idaho (high ignition zone). A private contractor completed the fuels reduction creating a 100 foot defendable space around the perimeter of the complex. The PCR, in addition, has cleaned up all ground fuels, installed sprinkler system and created a fire break adjacent to the complex by widening a natural fire break. Emergency Service Coordinator and GSR manager developed an evacuation plan, for the ranch in the event a wildland fire did accrue. All staff at the PCR attended a presentation on proper FIRE WISE mitigation guild.

A county wide evacuation plan is in place and located in all Emergency Operation Plans. Evacuation plans for individual subdivisions are currently being completed.

Educational opportunities for local residents are available upon request for private courses in FIRE WISE, along with educational hand-outs being given out during special event (i.e. parades, fairs, community gathering).

Development of Fuels Reduction documentary. Leslie Shumate is working with Producer. Interviews with persons involved, WUI, BLM, Commissioners, Forest Service ect.

GPS mapping of fuels are currently being conducted in the Williams Lake Subdivision and Sheep Creek area. Additional areas are all interface subdivisions will be GPS for fuel identification and fuel loads. A GPS system, with the computer program have been purchased with WUI funds to enable this.

Lemhi County, with funding provided through WUI, has hired a Hazardous Fuels Reduction Administrative Assistant.

Lemhi County's Wildland Hazardous Fuels Reduction Committee, is active in reviewing all up-coming events and projects in an effort to make our county wildland fire defensible.